ific School of Religion,
8 Scenic Ave.,
keley, 4Calif.

The Pacific

7th Year MARCH, 1947 No. 3

GAINS IN 1946

The one hundred Churches of the Northern California Congregational Conference now have a total of 24,820 members. During 1946, according to the reports of the Churches for the Year Book, 2,370 new members were received —exactly one-half came on Confession of Faith. The net gain was 1136. The number of absentee members was 3,257, a few more than the figure of a year ago.

Has the tide turned in our Church Schools? There are signs that it has. The total enrollment, as of January 1, is 11,014. A year ago it was 10,725 and the year before that, 10,080. Membership of Young People's Societies has jumped from 2,880 to 3,452. Over 18,000 persons were engaged in educational activities.

The benevolence giving of our Churches was given in considerable detail in the February issue of The Pacific.

The home expenses rose to $537,415 an increase of $63,000 over 1945, which in turn showed a gain of $52,000 over 1944. Twenty-four churches have a total of $355,119 of invested funds. Legacies were received by seven churches totaling $7,683.

The salaries of ministers have been increased by many of the churches. In spite of present difficulties, there have been improvements on property, payments on debts, and new parsonages.

Four churches received 100 or more new members, 10 or more received over 50, and 18 additional in excess of 25. Twenty-one took in between 10 and 24. No new churches were received into fellowship during the year and none were dropped.

Plymouth House

The first meeting of the Advisory Board for Plymouth House, the Congregational Student Center for the University of California, was held on February 19th. It is intended that this board shall meet occasionally with the students and give them general support in carrying out their program. The Board crystalizes the interest of a group of faculty persons in religious work among students. Included in the members of the board are Dr. Edward A. Steinhaus, Dr. David H. Russell, Dr. Ernest B. Babcock, Dr. Hugh Vernon White, Dr. Woodbridge Bingham, Mrs. Evan Carlson, Dr. Vere V. Loper, Dr. J. Ford Forsyth, Rev. Fred Morrow, Mrs. Gilbert S. Bailey, and Harry Boardman Drobish. The new semester began on February 19th. Plymouth House members have cooperated with the Inter-Faith Council at the University in gathering the information regarding religious preference given on registration cards. Information on the program and activities of Plymouth House was sent to all Congreational students. Prominent among the events to help new students to become acquainted was a banquet on Friday evening, March 7th, when the speaker was Rev. G. Arthur Casaday, of the Palo Alto Congregational Church, and a former director of Plymouth House.

Plans are being made for the annual spring retreat which this year will be held at the Fairview Ranch, near Oroville, the home of "Bo" Drobish, the president of Plymouth House. The dates will be March 21 to 23.

Many members of Plymouth House participated in the presentation of Mendellsohn's "Elijah" under the direction of Charles Black in the First Congregational Church on March 2.

Spring Association Speakers

In the Calendar of Events which appears in another column is the schedule of the Spring meetings of the Associations. Program committees are at work and more detailed information will appear in the April issue of The Pacific.

Miss Ione Catton of New York City, Resource Secretary of the Missions Council, with responsibility for the work of the Board of Home Missions, will be a speaker at all of the Association meetings. She was born in Michigan, educated at the University of Wisconsin, Boston University and Columbia University. For two years, she was Head Resident of the Frances Willard Settlement in Boston, and later Executive Secretary of the Michigan State Council of Churches. She is an experienced teacher and has directed Summer Camps.

Miss Ione Catton

At a number of the Associations, there will be a return visit of Dr. Stanley U. North, Director of City Work Department of the Board of Home Missions. Dr. North has been keenly interested in California for the past several years, because of the tremendous growth of population here. It was through him that appropriations were secured for our share in the interdenominational war work projects. Recognizing that California is the "growing edge" of Congregationalism, he has been an especial help in the development of some of our projects.

His last pastorate was at Briarcliff Manor, New York. Dr. North will be at the Sacramento Valley, Central, Santa Clara, and San Joaquin Association meetings, and will fill a number of engagements with committees and churches, in addition.

Rev. Stanley U. North

INASMUCH—

Our Congregational people, through their Churches, will surely want to do their part, and more, in contributing clothing and shoes and bedding for relief of those who are cold and ill-clad in the Orient. In order to save shipping charges, West Coast people are encouraged by the Church World Service to send their supplies to Asia, rather than Europe. The need is unspeakably great in both areas. At least five pounds of clothing should be dug up out of our closets as the gift of each member of each Congregational family. And our young people are asked to do their part toward collecting 50,000 pairs of shoes. This project will make real and vivid our missionary interest, and it will contribute more than we will ever realize to the forwarding of peace and understanding between the peoples of the world.

In almost every city, there are depots where such gifts can be concentrated, or they may be taken or sent directly to 1145 South Tenth Street, Richmond, California.

CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT

The Conference Committee for Social Action believes that churches should be deeply concerned about social issues which are at stake for California under the "Central Valley Project." It believes that the present 160 acre limitation which obtains under Federal irrigation projects should be maintained and for the following reasons:

(1) It will make possible and maintain family operated small farms.

(2) It will prevent employee operated large farms and thus avoid many problems brought by the need for itinerant labor.

(3) It will prevent speculation in anticipation of increased values because of availability of water for irrigation.

(4) It will make large areas available for family size farms for settlement by soldiers and war workers.

(5) It will spread the benefit of the "Central Valley Project," which is paid for by taxes, to a larger number of people.

ATTEND TO TAX EXEMPTION!

Every church is required to fill out tax exemption blanks within the next month in order to take advantage of the law exempting properties used only for religious purposes. This is by way of reminding those responsible for taking care of this matter.

RACIAL CLINICS

The Committee on Church and Race, set up at the Grinnell Council, through its secretary Rev. Galen Weaver has made a valuable contribution to better interrace relations in our Conference.

Mr. Weaver held a workshop at the Pastoral Conference at Pacific School of Religion, which was shared in not only by a number of our own ministers but men from other fellowships. Meetings were held with significant groups in San Mateo, San Carlos, San Jose, and Oroville.

At Fresno there was a well planned clinic. Mr. Weaver preached to 196 people at the First Church on Sunday morning and to 105 young people in the evening. Then a little later he was with the Japanese Congregational and Methodist young folk. On Monday noon he spoke to 70 women at a Race Relations luncheon held at the YWCA.

The clinic itself had a registration of 81 persons, 36 of them being from our own Congregational churches. There were a number of racial and national groups represented, including Negroes, Armenians, Japanese, Mexicans, Filipinos, Germans, Russians, and one Italian. There were 9 ministers including a Jewish rabbi, 15 teachers, 4 social workers, 3 secretaries, 4 youth workers, 4 farmers, one editor, one immigrant consultant, and the secretary of the local Labor Council. Mrs. Clayton Gill of Tulare took shorthand notes and all participants have received copies of the proceedings. The organization of the meeting was carried forward largely by Rev. John H. Gregg of our First Church.

CALENDAR OFEVENTS

March 22—East Bay P. F. Rally, St. Mark's E & R Church
March 23—West Bay P. F. Rally, Campbell
April 24—Redwood Empire Association, Petaluma
April 25—Upper Bay Association, Crockett
April 29—Bay Association, Oakland, First
May 1—Sacramento Valley Association, Oroville
May 5—Central Association, Salida
May 6—Santa Clara Association, Santa Cruz
May 8—San Joaquin Association, Tulare
June 14-21—Central P. F. Camp, Cazadero
June 21-July 3—Christian Education Laboratory School, Oakland, Plymouth
June 21-28—West Bay P. F. Camp, Cazadero
June 25-29—General Conference of the German Churches, Lodi
June 28-July 5—Redwood P. F. Camp, Cazadero
July 5-12—Upper Bay P. F. Camp, Cazadero
July 12-19—Family Camp, Cazadero
July 19-26—Family Camp, Cazadero
July 26-August 2—Junior Hi Camp No. 1, Cazadero
August 1-6—M.E.M. Conference Asilomar
August 9-16—East Bay P. F. Camp, Cazadero
August 16-23—Junior Hi Camp No. 2, Cazadero
August 23-30—State P. F. Camp, Cazadero
August 30-September 6—Student Camp, Cazadero

The Pacific

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CHURCH SCHOOLS ON THE MARCH

Adopting a 20 per cent increase in Sunday School enrollment as a goal, the Christian Education Committee is embarking on an all-out drive for Advance in our Church Schools. At the same time, announcement is made of the forthcoming publication of the new Pilgrim Series Curriculum, to give better and more usable materials for the "average" untrained Sunday School teacher.

Features of the Pilgrim Series, based on unified lesson themes which center attention of the whole Sunday School above primary, include printed worship services, and a quarterly manual for pastor and superintendent.

Theme for fall 1947 is "What's In the Bible?" Bible Exhibits can be featured. Every Sunday School department will contribute. The pastor will find in the manual a series of three teachers' meetings, to help teachers not in general, but to teach specific lessons in the Bible series. The Quarterlies are to be undated, well-written, and surprisingly low-priced considering their attractive format.

With this help, and with attention focusing on the need for Christian Education, there is a chance for every Sunday School to move ahead. The Conference Christian Education Committee stands ready to help any Church School which is ready to tackle such a program of aggressive advance.

THE LORBEERS COMING IN JUNE

Word comes that Mr. Lloyd L. Lorbeer and Mrs. Lorbeer from Pasumalai, India, stating that they will arrive on furlough about June 1st and hope to make their home in Berkeley for the time being, provided suitable living quarters can be secured. Will loyal Congregationalists be on the watch? Mr. Lorbeer is a good gardener and they would be delighted to look after someone's home and garden for people away on extended absence.

WORD FROM HENRY HAYDEN

Rev. Henry H. Hayden, formerly of Guerneville, is now Student Work Secretary of the United Christian Fellowship at the University of New Mexico. He reports an enrollment at the University of 3400, and 1000 more expected next September.

INTRODUCING MISS AGNES ROBB

The Pacific and the Conference office are happy to introduce to our fellowship Miss Agnes Robb, who has become a secretary as of March 1. Miss Robb for many years has been active in the Congregational wing of the Grace United Church of the Mission. She is a long time faithful Congregational member. At the beginning it is not the plan that Pacific Book Service shall be pushed. Later on it is hoped that some more adequate provision may be made for the handling of our publications.

NOT SO GOOD

It is much too early for the Church by Church report which follows to indicate any very clear trends. It is perfectly evident that a good many Churches have not made any remittance at all thus far this year as was the case a year ago. There are some very serious drops, probably due to failure to get February checks into the office.

March is the end of the Conference fiscal year. It will be greatly appreciated if pastors and treasurers make an extra effort to see that all benevolence and C.W.V.R. money is forwarded by the end of the month. There is one complication; namely, that the last Sunday of the month comes so late that unless checks are mailed that afternoon they will not arrive in time to be counted for the month. **We cannot keep the books open at the end of March as we do for the Apportionment Year, in January.** Most treasurers will probably forward their remittances during the week following the 23rd and permit the receipts of March 30th to be included with April money.

	Jan. 11 to Feb. 28, 1946 App't.	Jan. 11 to Reb. 28, 1947 App't.	C.W.V.R. 1947
Adin	$ 2.75	$	$
Alameda	95.55	240.51	94.80
Auburn	20.00	28.00	12.00
Benicia		37.50	
Berkeley, Chinese	10.00		
Berkeley First	3,303.65	1,995.41	3,154.24
Berkeley, North	80.60	87.65	43.65
Berkeley, Northbrae		375.60	
Berkeley, South	103.83	84.96	
Cloverdale	11.10	5.93	
Cotati		25.00	25.00
Crockett		36.06	
Dinuba	.60		
Etna		6.90	
Eureka	74.40	91.44	
Fresno, First	305.00		524.75
Glen Ellen		20.00	60.00
Grass Valley	25.00		
Guerneville		9.50	
Lodi, First	1,125.00	120.98	
Martinez	175.00	45.45	3.00
Murphys	81.00		
Oakland, First	1,079.74	888.00	
Pilgrim	14.00	9.34	3.51
Plymouth	179.81	177.21	
Orinda		157.60	
Oroville	429.57	72.00	176.63
Pacific Grove	5.50		
Palo Alto	420.00	300.00	450.00
Paradise	100.00	122.00	33.00
Parlier	25.00		
Penngrove		26.17	
Pescadero		10.00	
Pittsburg	33.79	27.92	
Porterville		565.80	398.70
Redwood City		381.93	83.20
Rio Vista		25.00	
Sacramento, First	250.00	257.50	1,000.00
Salida		32.00	
San Carlos	50.00	70.00	
San Francisco—			
Chinese	20.00		
Park Presidio	17.98	48.83	
Sanger		11.04	
San Jose	83.52	105.00	
San Leandro		8.20	
San Mateo			40.00
San Rafael	24.50	66.00	
Santa Cruz	150.00	10.00	
Santa Rosa	72.46		20.00
Sebastopol	28.13		
Soquel		18.00	
Stockton	90.75	237.25	77.05
Suisun	4.00		11.74
Sunnyvale			
Tulare	120.33	120.88	74.22
Reno, Nevada	99.95	58.66	12.99
Miscellaneous	626.69	41.90	182.25
	$9,339.20	$7,059.12	$6,480.73

M. E. M.

The 1947 Missionary Education Movement Conference is to be held at Asilomar, August 1st to 6th. The theme will be "Evangelism." The main mission study book, "Suzuki Looks at Japan" is being written by Willis Lamott of the San Francisco Theological Seminary. He will be at Asilomar to lecture. The Chaplain for the Conference will be Rev. Pierson Parker. Last year's enrollment reached 287.

Registration will be $2.75, and board and lodging $15.00.

SCHOOL FOR LAYMEN GREAT SUCCESS

The Laymen's School of Churchmanship again proved to be an attractive, worthwhile and inspiring occasion. One hundred five men were in attendance, representing twenty-nine churches. The North Church men did the serving of the very excellent dinner at Whittier Grammar School.

The sessions of the school were, as formerly, in the Holbrook Library of the Pacific School of Religion, which has proved to be an ideal location. In the absence of Mr. Harold T. Avery, who was called east, Dr. George B. Martin presided and also attended to the necessary organization. Mr. Ralph T. Fisher of Oakland opened with a splendid devotional service.

The morning session was devoted to four addresses. President Ronald Bridges made vivid the choice that lies before mankind between the forces of religion, on the one hand, and the seemingly more powerful forces of science, on the other. Mr. Walter A. Graham, new director of laymen's work for our Congregational fellowship, then spoke on "The Church is my Hobby," a very thoughtful and challenging call for Christian service. Superintendent Harley H. Gill gave a report of the progress and the problems facing our Congregational churches in this great growing area, and Field Secretary William W. Meyer described the steps and issues in the proposed union with the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

In the afternoon there were four groups for discussion. Mr. Arnold Fisher of Oakland presided and Mr. Charles W. Brock led in the section for Trustees and Treasurers. Rev. Frank E. Carlson was the speaker at the session for Deacons. Field Secretary William W. Meyer and a group of associates directed the thinking of those interested in Christian Education and Young People's Work. For the first times there was a section on Men's Work, chairmanned by David H. Gill of Sacramento and with Walter Graham as the speaker.

Rev. Robert W. Inglis of Plymouth Church, Oakland, brought the closing message on sources of vital Christian experience.

AT LAST! OUR MANUAL!

At long last the new manual of the Congregational Christian Churches is off the press and can be ordered. This manual is edited by Rev. Oscar C. Maurer and takes the place of the Burton Manual and the still earlier one by William E. Barton. It is well and appropriately bound in semi-limp covers and has a total of 230 pages. It contains a brief history of American Congregationalism, rules and regulations for local Churches, and a section on the Fellowship of Churches, including Associations, Conferences, General Council, the Boards and Ecclesiastical Councils. It deals with standards for the ministry and the various forms of installation, transfer, recognition and dismissal of ministers. It has parliamentary rules, and forms for use of Associations, Churches and Ministers.

The cost is $2.00 per copy, and the Pacific Book Service has a supply on hand and can fill your order promptly. A considerable number of our ministers have been waiting for many months to secure their copies.

FLASH !

LAST MINUTE NEWS !

The annual meeting of the State Conference will be held at First Congregational Church, Berkeley, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 17, 18, and 19. Put this in your date book.

FRESNO, JAPANESE. Rev. George Aki, pastor, conducted the devotional services over KFRE for five days in March. Members of the church are devoting time for cleaning up the property which has been used and will work on the new chapel, which has been moved but is not yet finished.

BERKELEY, CHINESE. At a special communion service in January there were three baptisms, one confirmation, and three new members received into the church. Dr. Hoh Yam-tong, the pastor, has been active in the Berkeley drive for United Service to China. A class in Mandarin is being organized.

PESCADERO. The average attendance at the weekday school of relifious education is 21. The church continues the publication of a newspaper for the Pescadero community. Mr. Donald Kirkbride of Pacific School of Religion is serving as pastor.

ORINDA. Before actually moving the building from St. Mary's College to the new site, an inventory blank has been circulated in which members of the Church can register the facilities which they regard as of highest importance. Rev. Fred R. Morrow is the pastor.

HAYWARD. During Lent Rev. Richard Norberg meets with the Junior Fellowship each Sunday morning for instruction in churchmanship. Rev. Byron Eshelman, chaplain at Alcatraz Prison, was speaker at a meeting of the Pilgrim Fellowship.

ALTURAS. Rev. William Moll Case is conducting a class for young people in preparation for Church membership. A candle-light Communion Service was held on Ash Wednesday in which the different organizations of the Church participated.

GUERNEVILLE. A call has been extended to Carl Theodore Gustafson, a senior at Pacific School of Religion, who has been serving the Methodist Church in Sonoma. He will begin work about June first.

SAN LORENZO. There is again a somewhat lively prospect that the church may secure a chapel from one of the branches of the armed services, to be installed on the new site. Rev. Homer A. Schwarz is pastor.

SAN JOSE. An enthusiastic group of Junior High Pilgrim Fellowship with an enrollment of twenty-one is reported. Mrs. John Massen, director of education, is counsellor. Rev. S. C. Peabody is the pastor.

TULARE. The month of February was celebrated as Brotherhood Month, Rev. Clayton Gill, the pastor, preached on "Racial Brotherhood," "Economic Brotherhood," and "Christian Brotherhood."

SAN FRANCISCO, PARK-PRESIDIO. Twenty pupils of the Church School had a perfect attendance record for the last quarter of 1946. Rev. Robert Moon is the pastor.

SAN FRANCISCO, OCEAN VIEW. Rev. James D. Salmon, former pastor, has supplied this church. Search is continuing for a new minister.

PACIFIC SCHOOL of RELIGION

PREPARES for the RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS

BERKELEY CALIFORNIA

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

OAKLAND, PLYMOUTH. A School Christian Living is being held on dnesday evenings, Prof. Hugh Vernon ite of Pacific School of Religion aking on each of six nights. The rch honored its former pastor, new derator of the General Council, Rev. ert W. Palmer, on Sunday evening, rch 2. Roland Hayes, great Negro or, will sing again in Plymouth, Sun- afternoon, March 16. During 1946 church gave more than $4500 for evolences, war victims, and the like. v. Robert W. Inglis, pastor, had as guest for several days Rev. Ralph R. ader, one of the secretaries of the erican Board, who, with Mrs. Shrader, s returning from a special mission to waii.

SAN CARLOS. The 19th annual re- rt of this Church shows remarkable ogress. The membership of this young ganization is now 331. The Church hool showed an active enrollment of 4. All debts have been cleared up, cluding the cost of the new real estate, d the amount owed to the Santa Clara ssociation. Total receipts during the ar were over $15,000. The building nd has more than $5500 in cash for the ext step forward. Rev. Weldon Batty the pastor.

PORTERVILLE. President W. C. ones of Whittier College, prominent ongregational layman, was speaker at ne sixth Lincoln Day men's dinner, with 50 men present. Mr. J. Howard Wil- ams, a member of this church, is now the State Senate. Of the forty-four lembers received in 1946, twenty-six ere men. The annual Colonial Tea for ne women of the church proved a not- ble occasion. Rev. Willis Goldsmith, ne pastor, is preaching during Lent "Timely Sermons on Old-New Questions."

PENNGROVE. Mr. George Hetenyi, astor of the church, has been having a unday evening commentary on the news. On a recent Sunday Rev. George R. Tol- on was speaker. The church sponsors monthly social evening for the people of the community, in which square danc- ng is featured.

ALAMEDA. Mr. George T. Morris, son of the first minister of this Church, and the last of the charter members, re- cently passed away. Sunday evening serv- ices will, by vote of the Church, be car- ried on during Lent. Rev. Ralph V. Conard, the pastor, is conducting a train- ing class for young people.

SARATOGA. Rev. Gordon L. King, pastor, is preaching a series of Lenten sermons on "The Cross of Christ," "As John Beheld It," "As Peter Beheld It," "As the Centurian Beheld It," "As Mary Magdalene Beheld It." Guest ministers are preaching at special Lenten Sunday evening services.

OAKLAND, NEW PILGRIM. Attend- ance at morning worship and Sunday School continues on an encouraging level. Mr. Leland Mahood, minister, is working with the Assistant Public Defender on juvenile problems. Plans are under way for a couples' club, an adult choir, and a men's group.

WOODSIDE. Rev. Charles E. Ward is conducting a splendid training class during the Sunday School hour. A pipe organ fund has been launched with a goal of about $2900, with which to buy a Wurlitzer electric organ, which now embodies many of the fine features of the Orgatron.

BERKELEY, FIRST. Church attend- ance at the morning service averaged 669 throughout the full year. One hun- dred seventy-six were received into the church, bringing the total to 1505. At the February communion service 21 per- sons were received into membership. Gifts are being received for the Mabel Hill Redfield memorial organ. Rev. Vere V. Loper is presenting a series of Sunday morning sermons based on the Fellowship of Prayer, of which he was the author. He is conducting a training class for church members and a Lenten Bible class each Thursday morning. Rev. J. Ford Forsyth is in charge of the Wednesday evening meetings, and there is a College of Life every Sunday morning at ten.

BERKELEY, SOUTH COMMUNITY. Rev. Buell Gallagher has been serving the church with the exception of occasion- al Sundays. During the last week of January he gave the Alden-Tuthill lec- tures at the Chicago Theological Semin- ary. Just as The Pacific goes to press comes the word that the church has called as the Negro co-pastor Rev. John Charles Mickle of the Mt. Zion Congregational Church of Cleveland. Mr. Mickle is a young man, graduate of Chicago Theolo- gical Seminary, and has been very suc- cessful in his present parish. The church will probably be purchasing a parsonage.

PETALUMA. In addition to its gen- erous support of benevolences and war victims, this church has sent $100 to Miss Agnes Wood, missionary in Africa, who recently visited the church, for the purchase of a horse for her use. The horse is to be named "Petaluma." A local shoe merchant has turned over to Rev. Herbert C. Gans, the minister, 175 pair of shoes for Church World Service. It might well be that other merchants have war style models that could now be given away.

PORT CHICAGO. A hedge has been planted at the parsonage and more shrubs added to the church grounds. A Cub Pack of Scouts has been formed. More adequate insurance has been placed on the property, membership has gained, and there has been some reduction in indebtedness. Rev. W. C. Besselievre is pastor.

LOOMIS. Rev. Joseph H. Bennett re- ports that during 1946 the Loomis Church gave a total to the War Victims Fund of nearly $300. (Several other Churches made substantial contributions which did not show up in The Pacific since moneys went direct to the Eastern Board.) The Church plans to publish a news bulletin.

OAKLAND, JAPANESE. Mr .Hiro Katayama, a member of this church and former student at Chicago Theological Seminary, preached at the South Berkeley Community Church on a recent Sunday. Rev. Norio Ozaki holds services at stated intervals in Richmond, Hunter's Point, and San Mateo.

SEBASTOPOL. Extensive remodeling of the building is to be undertaken, changing the use of certain rooms to make a more effective program possible. In addition, a long range planning finan- cial campaign has been launched looking toward a new building several years ahead. Rev. James P. Senter is pastor.

SAN FRANCISCO, GRACE UNITED. Only $700 remains to be paid on the old note which has troubled, if not crip- pled, this Church for many years. It is hoped to be entirely free from it by Easter. Rev. E. LeRoy Abbott is the minister.

SACRAMENTO, SIERRA-ARDEN. An epidemic of whooping cough which closed public schools was disastrous for Sunday School attendance in January and Febru- ary, but all activities are being resumed with the first of March. The Church has received a new Communion Service and the first Communion will be of a group of young people who are to unite with the Church on Palm Sunday. Easter Sun- rise services will be held on the site for the new building, and an eleven o'clock service will be held in the garden of one of the active members, when adults will be received into the Church. Rev. Mary McKee Chester and Rev. Joseph Chester are pastors in charge.

LODI, FIRST. The women's circles have been reorganized with new officers and regular monthly meeting dates. A nursery for the care of small children has been organized by the Friendship Class. Eleven new members joined the church and three children were consecrated on Sunday, February 23. The History Com- mittee have assembled material for the 75th anniversary of the church, which is soon to be celebrated. Rev. Amos R. Boone is preaching a series of Lenten sermons on "Christianity in Every Day Action." Bible reading, Prayer, For- giveness, Tithing, Mind Control, Love, and Eternity are subjects for practicing.

SANTA CRUZ. At the 89th annual meeting of the Church, Rev. H. S. Ma- hood reported 2600 visits during the year of which 1700 were on the sick and shut-ins. He conducted 87 funerals and 130 weddings; 42 members have been received during the year and the average attendance on Sunday mornings is 286. Substantial funds are on hand for repairs and improvement of the building. The 90th anniversary is to be celebrated next January.

PITTSBURG. The Women's Auxiliary was host to the Women's Service League of the Antioch Church, with Mrs. W. Bayard Buckham of Berkeley as the speak- er. Due to the generous gift of Mrs. Laura Cragin of Santa Rosa, the Auxiliary had its tenth daffodil tea. The Pilgrim Fellowship, which has an average at- tendance of 33, also was host to the Antioch group. Rev. Elmer W. Benedict, pastor, is preaching a series of Lenten sermons on the Book of Job.

SANGER. The Salem Church now has 181 members and is rapidly moving to- ward the 200 mark; 100 per cent of the members contribute. The treasury carried over, after the annual meeting, a splendid surplus. A garage for the use of the minister, Rev. Edward Hildebrand, was built during the year and a bonus was granted him, and an increase in salary for the coming year. The Sunday School has ten classes with 66 pupils, plus teachers and officers.

OAKLAND, FIRST. The Women's League raised and disbursed more than $5000 during the past year. The average attendance was larger than previously. At the annual meeting Rev. Clarence Reidenbach, the pastor, installed the new officers. A fine Young Adult Fellowship group has been formed, meeting on al- ternate Sundays from 7 to 10.

SACRAMENTO, PIONEER. Midweek services during Lent are led by laymen. Rev. Torrance Phelps is preaching a series of Book Sermons during March, using "Romans," "John," "Ephesians" and "Revelation." He gave two addresses to the Annual Conference of the Protestant Churches of Oregon at Eugene during the first week of March.

SAN FRANCISCO, FIRST. The wom- en of the church during the past year collected and packed fifty 10 pound boxes of food and clothing for England, Scot- land, and France. They sent 75 Christ- mas toys and decorations. Letters of appreciation have been coming back. Ninety-six garments were finished and sent to the Save the Children Federation. Books and magazines were collected for China and the Philippines. One day a week was spent in sewing for the Red Cross. Rev. Albert W. Palmer, Moder- ator of the General Council, was the preacher on Sunday, March 2. Rev. Jason Noble Pierce is the pastor.

SAN MATEO. A round table discus- sion on "Race Relations" was held on February 14th. Representatives of five Congregational Churches in the area at- tended. Rev. Galen Weaver, secretary of the Committee on Church and Race was the speaker, and he met with the mem- bers of the Social Action and World Service Committees. The youth activities of the Church are under the general di- rection of Rev. Ben Gaskell. There are many groups meeting for study and dis- cussion, making this Church one of the leaders in thorough-going educational work. Rev. Sidney Buckham is the pas- tor.

TRINITY COUNTY. Children in the Church School at Weaverville are de- lighted with the set of pictures and text entitled "All Aboard for Adventure." Visual aid such as this will be used throughout the country. A new Church School is being organized in Minersville. Student Summer Service young people will be heartily welcomed during the summer. The junior choir has a new director. Rev. William F. Keeney is the pastor.

MARTINEZ. This church is setting an example for others in promoting a discussion of the merger with the Evan- gelical & Reformed Church. Rev. Alfred Schroeder of St. Mark's E & R Church in Oakland was speaker at the March fel- lowship dinner. Already a number of people have spoken to the pastor, Rev. Donald F. Gaylord, about uniting with the church on Palm Sunday.

AUBURN. Seven new members were received at the March Communion and five in January. Average attendance at morning worship is good and there are splendid Sunday School classes for pri- mary children and for adults. The in- creased budget for the year was fully subscribed. Rev. Lucius T. Reed is the pastor.

CEDARVILLE. Rev. Terence Stoker, pastor, has led in reorganization of the Cub Scouts. A canvass is going forward in the community for the support of the church. A series of Lenten sermons are being preached on the Parables of Jesus. Mr. Stoker is also conducting a pastor's class in preparation for membership.

BENICIA. An automobile load of Ne- groes from Vallejo attended service on Brothersood Sunday. Pilgrim Fellowship made a pilgrimage to the First Church, Berkeley, on the first Sunday in March. Rev. Elmo D. Wilfe is the minister.

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WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

MRS. CLIFFORD H. POE, Editor

Next meeting, Thursday, March 20, First Church, Oakland, usual time.

New Goals, New Ambitions, New Hopes

The first meeting of the year of the Women's Federation with new officers filling their posts, was held at First Church, Oakland, February 20, 1947, with our new President, Mrs. E. B. Kientz of Stockton, presiding. It was a cheerful, courageous meeting, with the new electees in most cases expressing some slight bewilderment—myself among them—as the magnitude of their individual job slowly unfolded. However, if the fine spirit and enthusiasm evidenced at this first meeting is any indication, we are indeed off to a wonderful year with the finest program ever offered to any women's group. You will be kept informed, very efficiently we are sure, by your local representative and every sincere effort possible will be made to bring the meetings to you through these columns.

THANKS TO MISS PERKINS

No effort of your new Correspondent, as she somewhat apprehensively takes up her new duties, would be complete without a mention of the splendid and efficient work of Miss Helen Perkins, your previous Pacific Correspondent. It is indeed your loss, but we do feel greatly encouraged by the fact that whenever needed we know she will be standing by.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR DOOR

As we face our new goals, ambitions and hopes for the coming year of our work together for the Kingdom and the Federation, the thoughts brought to us by our Devotional Chairman, Mrs. H. C. Gans of Petaluma, in her beautiful devotional service, should bear deep consideration. Keeping in mind the theme of the Federation for the coming year—"Open Doors," Mrs. Gans has adopted as her devotional theme, "These Doors Will Open Too." She reminded us that in order to reap the fullest enjoyment and satisfaction of our effort, to work and to grow together, we must first be friends. We are reminded that the Door of Devotion may stick a little at times for all of us, or it may even be locked, and that there is great need for us to spend more time in reverence. It had been mentioned previously that possibly a weak point in the lives of all of us, and in our Federation has been our devotional life. In whatever endeavor we may be engrossed, we cannot do a good piece of work if our own religious worship has been neglected. Certainly there is a little time somewhere in the life of each of us to spend in devotion. There are many methods or keys which may open our individual doors—music, literature, beauty, silence. Odd as it may seem, humor may even be stimulation to worship, or provide the means for opening a door—for example, the delightful "Parables of Safed the Sage" by Wm. E. Barton, which was so charmingly read to us by Mrs. Gans and which we all so thoroughly enjoyed. Mrs. Gans expressed the thought also that her office might be considered a Resource Chairmanship, to help in planning programs for your own groups. So ask for help from Mrs. Gans if you need it, but be sure also to give important details on the requirements and background of your particular group to help her in making a selection.

THOSE OVERSEAS NEED YOUR HELP

Mr. Will Chandler of the Church World Service, who spoke at the morning session, told us that we are facing a very serious situation in our Overseas program of rehabilitation. UNRRA is passing out of existence, with no other Government agency to take its place. In the coming two years we are to know the most serious relief situation ever before encountered. Only the Churches are left to face it. They have not been asleep, however, and thirty denominations have now banded together and have pooled their efforts. The Parr Terminal Warehouse at Richmond has been turned over for this purpose and now houses the Church World Service at 1145 South Tenth Street. Tin can collections of food are no longer necessary as funds have been made available for wholesale purchase. The great difficulty is not with food—but with CLOTHING AND SHOES. Results of previous requests to Churches, said Mr. Chandler, have been discouraging, therefore a great LENTEN CLOTHING DRIVE has been instigated, with a million pounds as a goal by Easter, or an average of five pounds per member for churches in this area. This drive will only be a success as our church women get behind it. Will you just read this and forget it, or will you do something about it?

REPORTS OF SECRETARIES

Mrs. Chester Marliave, Foreign Field Secretary, gave us a most informative report on Foreign Missions, covering the dates of our early entry and progress made in each. A map of the world, dotted to show our Foreign Field growth was displayed for our visual education.

Mrs. Harley Gill, Home Field Secretary, recounted our Missionary efforts in this country and suggested that we consider themes or projects around them for our local groups. Better Race Relations and Indians were among those suggested for study and Mrs. Gill will be glad to order any pamphlets desired for your individual groups.

Mrs. James Cooper, Thank Offering Chairman, informed us that the final picture of las year's effort proved disappointing as we received some sixty dollars less than the previous year. We were reminded that certainly we received as many blessings in the past year but hadn't thanked the Lord for them through our giving, and that this grace of our attitude should not be an occasional effort but an all year practice.

Mrs. Sanford Siegrist and Mrs. George Thomson reported on Literature and recommended for good reading: "Our Son Pablo" by Gordon—the story of the education and life of an Indian boy; "We Go to Church"—Church School Workers might like to recommend this to new members; "How to Read the Bible" by J. Edgar Goodspeed; and "Christian Heritage in America" by George Hedley, was particularly recommended.

Interdenominational Chairman, Mrs. R. A. Fuller, told us about the founding and activities of the newly formed State Council of Church Women, who held their first meeting in January 1947, also many interesting facts about the World Day of Prayer which began in the Fiji Islands and progressed around the world... Monetary contributions received on that day are used as the individual country may decide, ours being used for Home Missions and Literature... Programs for this day are written by each country in turn, this year by a representative of India.

GENTLE HINT DEPARTMENT

This is another matter which should have your attention. As many of you realize, the Federation has a limited source of income with which to meet its budget. Some time ago, each church or each women's organization therein, if there be more than one, was asked to contribute $1.00—certainly a most nominal sum—to help meet the expenses of the Federation. Very little over half of the churches responded and the result was discouraging, nay, almost disastrous, financially. Possibly all we need to do here is to remind you that we need a 100 per cent response this year.

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

Excellent and complete reports of the Presidents were given at the January meeting covering the work of last year and so little time has elapsed since that time that there is very little further as yet to be reported by the new officers. We are sure that they have many fine, enthusiastic plans in mind, however, and that they will have a busy and fruitful year in 1947.

WE VISITED CLEVELAND

The highlight of our afternoon program was the personally conducted trip we took back to Cleveland with Mrs. Scott Haymond, to attend the Mid Winter meeting of the Missions Council. We had opportunity also to drop in at Schauffler College where we learned of the wonderful accomplishments of the Association women of that area on this project. The Conference at Cleveland was indeed literally packed with concentrated business, and Mrs. Haymond, with her inexhaustible supply of energy and enthusiasm, attended scores of important Committee meetings, bringing back to us the "meat" of it all. Mrs. Kientz, our president, who was also in attendance, added further items of great interest. We know that those of you who were present enjoyed our trip to Cleveland and trust that others who have not learned of the important things accomplished there may hear of it through other channels.

DID YOU REMEMBER THE MAP?

As mentioned in the February Pacific and also at Federation meeting, a beautiful map in full color, showing growth and progress of our Congregational Churches in the United States has just been published. Besides being highly instructive, one of these maps would be an attractive addition in your Church, Sunday School, or home. Priced at $3.00. Order from Pacific Book Service, 1164 Phelan Building, San Francisco 2.

A MESSAGE FOR THE LENTEN SEASON

It has been a fundemental aspect of the Lenten season to emphasize spiritual living through self-examination, self-discipline, and self-dedication. In the Medieval Church emphasis was laid upon renouncing the most basic human sins, known as the "Seven Deadly Sins," namely, pride, avarice, anger, gluttony, unchastity, envy, and vainglory. To get cleansed from these sins and to secure forgiveness, the Medieval Catholic Church demanded penance, which involves the contrition of the heart; confession to the priest of all known sins; satisfaction of Divine justice through alms, fasts, pilgrimages, and fines; and absolution or forgiveness of sins pronounced by the priest in the name of God.

As Protestants, we do not profess belief in the efficacy of penance, but we believe in true penitence. We stress the necessity of humility to see our errors, sins, and shortcomings; to confess them to God, and ask God's pardon, make amends for our wrongs, and continue to live in purity, faith and service.

However, our Christian faith is not a negative experience. We believe in affirmation. Therefore, while emphasizing self-examintation and self-discipline in regards to the Deadly Sins, we also stress the necessity of self-dedication to the highest realities of the Christian Gospel. The Medieval Church, again, in contrast to the Seven Deadly Sins, taught the necessity of cultivating seven cardinal virtues, that is prudence, courage, temperance, justice, faith, hope and love. The conclusion is evident: against the Seven Deadly Sins the Christian Church offers and stresses the Seven Cardinal Virtues.

To develop a healthy Christian character, we need to stress the necessity of cultivating the positive Christian virtues. Therefore, as we think of the Lenten season, it is becoming that in true humility we should examine our hearts, motives, desires, thoughts, and uproot from them all traces of the sins of pride, avarice, anger, gluttony, unchastity, envy, and vainglory. But, we cannot stop there; we should cultivate the virtues of prudence, courage, temperance, justice, faith, hope, and love.

This is not accomplished by sheer force of will. We cannot say, "I shall be healthy" and be healthy. To be healthy, we eat balanced food, take sufficient exercise, expose ourselves to the light and heat of the sun, and the rest—we leave to nature; we leave to God. Similarly, to be "healthy" and "virtuous" Christians, we feed our souls on the Bread of Life; we breathe the Spirit of Divine Love; we exercise our faith through loving deeds; we expose ourselves to the purifying and cleansing influence of the Saviour—and watching our steps day by day the Lord creates in us a clean heart, a new spirit, and a new man. May the Lenten weeks be days of renewal, cleansing, discipline, and namely: the Perfect Love and Character of God as manifested and His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

—Rev. H. A. Chakmakjian

(Condensed from Pilgrim Church, (Fresno) News.

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